APR 1 9 2006

Docket No. AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER 0230-0169P Filing Date Examiner Art Unit Application No. 09/937,905-Conf. #5513 October 1, 2001 E. Kemmerer 1646 Applicant(s): Shiken SHA et al. NOVEL PROTEINS, GENE ENCODING THE SAME AND METHOD OF UTILIZATION Invention: **MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Claims Highest Remaining Number Number After Previously **Extra Claims** Amendment Paid Present Rate **Total Claims** 23 23 Independent 3 3 Х **Claims** Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: 0.00 x Large Entity Small Entity x No additional fee is required for this amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of \$ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. x Credit any overpayment. Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. APR 1 9 2006

Dated: naar MaryAnne Armstrong, Ph.D. Attorney Reg. No.: 40,069 BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000



Docket No.: 0230-0169P

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shiken SHA et al.

Application No.: 09/937,905

Art Unit: 1646

Filed: October 1, 2001

Examiner: E. Kemmerer

For: NOVEL PROTEINS, GENE ENCODING THE

SAME AND METHOD OF UTILIZATION

THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

APR 1 9 2006

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.